

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/031,282
Reply to Final Office Action dated March 30, 2006

PATENT
450101-03040

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the remarks herewith.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1, 2, 4-9 and 11-27 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 6-8, 13, 15, 16, 19, 20, 23 and 25 are independent. Claims 3 and 10 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 4-9 and 11-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over JP 2000-005439 to Nippon (hereinafter, merely "Nippon") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,443,840 to Von Kohorn (hereinafter, merely "Von Kohorn").

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

"A video game system...

...said service provider comprises database administration means for administering privilege data base in which privilege information corresponding to a game stage of a video game and client data base in which client information of said video game is registered, and distribution control means for controlling of accepting access based on said client information from the video game device connected through said network, taking out privilege information corresponding to the cleared game stage by said database administration means, and distributing said privilege information,

wherein advertisement information is registered by said data base administration means, and said advertisement information is added to said privilege information and distributed by said distribution control means." (emphasis added)

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As understood by Applicants, Nippon relates to a communications game system which issues a game continuing key card that stores game resume information. Despite interruption of a game being played, the game can be resumed from the hierarchical stage interrupted the last time, from any of a plurality of game terminal devices. While resuming an interrupted game, a game continuing key card with game resume information printed thereon is inserted into the game continuing key card printing/reading means of any of the plurality of game terminal devices. The game resume information is read and printed in the form of two-dimensional codes on the game continuing key card.

As understood by Applicants, Von Kohorn relates to transmission by electronic media including radio and television broadcasting programs to listeners and viewers of the programs where the provision of signals designating questions or tasks including a wagering situation. Also, to the provision of response criteria for evaluating responses of the listeners and viewers.

It is respectfully submitted that the applied combination of Nippon and Von Kohorn does not teach the above-recited features of independent claim 1. Specifically, the Office Action concedes that "Nippon lacks in disclosing the advertising information registered and distributed." (See Office Action page 3) Applicants respectfully disagree with the assertion that Von Kohorn provides the disclosure missing from Nippon.

The Office Action cites Column 24, lines 35-52 of Von Kohorn, which recites "...up-to-date promotional information printed on coupons directing the station which transmits instructional signals to remote locations to include in such signals the desired advertising material. A last-minute telephone call by an advertiser to the sub-carrier station with directives to incorporate certain instructional signals in the sub-carrier transmission will result in a large

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number of shoppers being alerted to 'special sales' through up-to-the-minute coupon promotions."

Applicants submit that Nippon and Von Kohorn, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the above features of claim 1. Specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that there is no teaching or suggestion of a video game system wherein advertisement information is registered by said data base administration means, and said advertisement information is added to said privilege information and distributed by said distribution control means, as recited in claim 1.

Indeed, the combination of Nippon and Von Kohorn does not suggest advertisement information being registered in a data base and added to privilege information.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 6-8, 13, 15, 16, 19, 20, 23 and 25 are also believed to be patentable.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 6-8, 13, 15, 16, 19, 20, 23 and 25 are patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claim discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

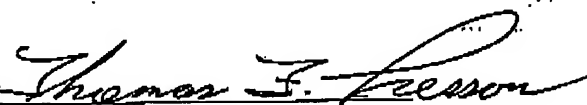
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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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